

# Selection criteria for publications in the PSYNDEX reference database

The PSYNDEX database is a comprehensive collection of psychology publications from German-speaking countries. Qualified scientific staff members follow both formal and content-based criteria when selecting the publications for inclusion.

## 1. Formal Inclusion Criteria

- a. Publications of authors who have their primary affiliation in a German-speaking country (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, or Luxembourg).
- b. Publications published in either **English** or **German**.
- c. Publications of the following types: **journal articles** (original contributions to professional/academic journals only), **monographs** (including doctoral dissertations, postdoctoral [i.e., habilitation] theses, and publications of tests/measures), as well as **edited volumes** and **institutional reports** (so-called "gray literature") and the relevant contributions included within these two publication types.

## 2. Formal Exclusion Criteria

- a. Articles in **newspapers** and nonacademic **magazines**, content from **poster** and oral **presentations**, **audiovisual media**, and **keyword contributions** to reference works/encyclopedias.
- b. The following contributions from professional journals and edited publications: Announcements, abstracts, book and film reviews, brief opinion pieces that do not include cited sources, panel discussions, short summaries of workshops or original studies conducted by others, and editorials serving to provide a general overview of the publication content.
- c. Reprints of historical publications initially **published prior to 1977**, the year ZPID began documentation.

### 3. Content-based Inclusion Criteria

- a. Publications by authors affiliated with a psychology department or a comparable institution that is engaged in psychological research<sup>1</sup>,
- b. Contributions to key psychology publications that have, in terms of content, been approved by the editors:
  - i. **Core journals** in psychology (Status A)<sup>2</sup>,
  - ii. **Collections of works central to psychology**<sup>3</sup> and the individual contributions included in them (including contributions by authors from outside the **German-speaking countries** that have been translated into German)
  - iii. Published **conference proceedings** of the meetings and events hosted by professional psychology associations
- c. Publications **relevant for psychology** by authors with backgrounds in **applied psychology** (e.g., self-employed professionals, industrial settings, treatment centers) and **discipline-related research areas**. This selection is based on the **professional expertise** of qualified scientific staff members. Decisions of this nature are subject to internal peer review when necessary.

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<sup>1</sup> For the comprehensive documentation of psychological research activity across the German-speaking countries.

<sup>2</sup> Definition: (1) the majority of the contributions are thematically related to psychology, (2) one or more of the editors have a professional background in psychology, or (3) the contributing authors primarily have professional backgrounds in psychology. The publications of relevant psychological societies and organizations based in the German-speaking countries are included here as well.

<sup>3</sup> Definition: (1) authors or editors have professional expertise in psychology, (2) focus on interdisciplinary topics or documented debates that are substantially contributed to by psychologists, (3) the majority of contributions are from psychologists, or (4) professionals in psychology compose the target audience of the publication, even when the authors are from a background other than psychology (e.g., therapy materials).